



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE/NOAA FISHERIES
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396
(808) 983-5300 • Fax: (808) 983-2902

CRUISE REPORT¹

VESSEL: *Oscar Elton Sette*, Cruise 05-09 (OES-31)

CRUISE PERIOD: July 19 to August 5, 2005

AREA OF OPERATION: Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (Fig. 1)

TYPE OF OPERATION: Protected Species Division Monk Seal Field camp recovery

ITINERARY:

- 19 July Embarked Yoshinaga, Andrews, Frierson, Stadler, and Vekasay. Departed Snug Harbor, Honolulu at 1000. Transited to Nihoa Island.
- 20 July Arrived Nihoa Island. Deployed PWC (beach landing vessel) and Achilles skiff (support vessel). Disembarked Yoshinaga, Andrews, and K. Dreflak to conduct day survey and tagging of Hawaiian monk seals. Recovered all boats and personnel by 1600. Transited to Necker Island.
- 21 July Arrived Necker Island. Deployed Achilles skiff. Disembarked Yoshinaga and Andrews to conduct day survey and seal tagging on island. Recovered all boats and personnel by 1600. Transited to French Frigate Shoals (FFS).
- 22 July Arrived FFS 0800. Off-loaded all equipment and supplies including all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pallet tubs, six 55-gal drums unleaded fuel, one 50-hp Honda engine, and one National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) pallet tub. Embarked Kropidlowski. Departed FFS 1600 en route to Laysan Island.
- 24 July Arrived Laysan Island 0800. Off-loaded all supplies and equipment. Disembarked Kropidlowski and Vekasay. Loaded all equipment and supplies. Embark Jorgensen, Holman, Reuland, and Norris. Departed Laysan Island 1600 en route to Lisianski Island.



¹ PIFSC Cruise Report CR-06-013
Issued 1 May 2006

- 25 July Arrived Lisianski Island 0800. Loaded all equipment and supplies. Embarked Moreland and Johnston. Departed Lisianski Island 1600 en route to Midway Atoll.
- 26 July Arrived Midway Island 1600. Off-loaded all equipment and supplies. Loaded all equipment and supplies including one 30-hp Honda 4-stroke engine. Yoshinaga and Andrews conducted cetacean sampling and census.
- 27 July Embarked J. Klavitter. Departed Midway Island 0700 en route to Kure Atoll.
- 27 July Arrived Kure Atoll 1300. Disembarked Klavitter. Off-loaded all supplies. Disembarked Stadler and Frierson. Loaded all supplies and equipment including one 13-ft Boston Whaler boat. Embarked Wurth, Lopez, and Flynn.
- 28 July Continued loading operations at Kure Atoll. Embarked Klavitter. Departed Kure Atoll 1100 en route to Midway Atoll.
- 28 July Arrived Midway Atoll. Disembarked Klavitter. Departed Midway Atoll en route to Pearl and Hermes Reef.
- 29 July Arrived Pearl and Hermes Reef 0800. Loaded all supplies and equipment, including one 8-ft kayak, one 18-ft Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB), and one 15-ft EdgeWater boat. Embarked Cahoon, Teeples, and Finn.
- 30 July Disembarked Yoshinaga, Andrews, and Johnston to conduct day census and sampling of cetaceans at Pearl and Hermes. Disembarked Cahoon, Teeples, and Finn to conduct seal census. Departed Pearl and Hermes Reef 1600 en route to FFS.
- 02 Aug Arrived FFS 0800. Off-loaded one 18-ft RHIB. Disembarked Yoshinaga, and Andrews. Loaded one 17-ft Boston Whaler boat. Embarked McGuire and Higgins. Departed FFS 1600 en route to Honolulu.
- 05 Aug Arrived Honolulu 0800. Off-loaded all supplies, equipment, trash, and recyclables. Disembarked all scientists. End of cruise.

MISSIONS AND RESULTS:

- A . Recover NMFS Marine Mammal Research Program field camps at Kure Atoll, Midway Atoll, Pearl and Hermes Reef, Lisianski Island, and Laysan Island transporting all supplies, equipment, and personnel to Honolulu.

All fieldcamps were recovered successfully.

- B. Resupply existing NMFS field camp at FFS.

All supplies were off-loaded successfully.

- C. Resupply existing USFWS field camps at Laysan Island. Transport equipment, supplies, and personnel.

All equipment and supplies were transported and off-loaded successfully.

- D. Conduct conductivity-temperature-depth (CTD) casts opportunistically.

Ten CTD casts were conducted successfully at designated locations within the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

- E. Support University of Hawaii cetacean genetics study by transporting personnel to FFS.

Personnel and supplies were transported successfully.

- F. Resupply existing Division of Fish and Wildlife (DOFAW) field camp at Kure Atoll.

All supplies and equipment were transported successfully.

**SCIENTIFIC
PERSONNEL:**

Chad Yoshinaga, Chief Scientist, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

Jean Higgins, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Maire Cahoon, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Jonathan Sprague, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Nicole Teeples, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Tracy Wurth, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Hugh Finn, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Jessica Lopez, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Tamara McGuire, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Karin Flynn, Cooperating Scientist, Division of Fish and Wildlife

Gretchen Johnston, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Karen Holman, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Tenaya Norris, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

Kenady Reuland, Cooperating Scientist, Aquatic Farms

John Klavitter, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Geological Survey

Stephan Kropidowski, Cooperating Scientist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Evan Jorgensen, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

Submitted by: (/s/Chad Yoshinaga)

Chad Yoshinaga
Chief Scientist

Approved by: (/s/Samuel G. Pooley)

Samuel G. Pooley
Science Director
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

Attachment

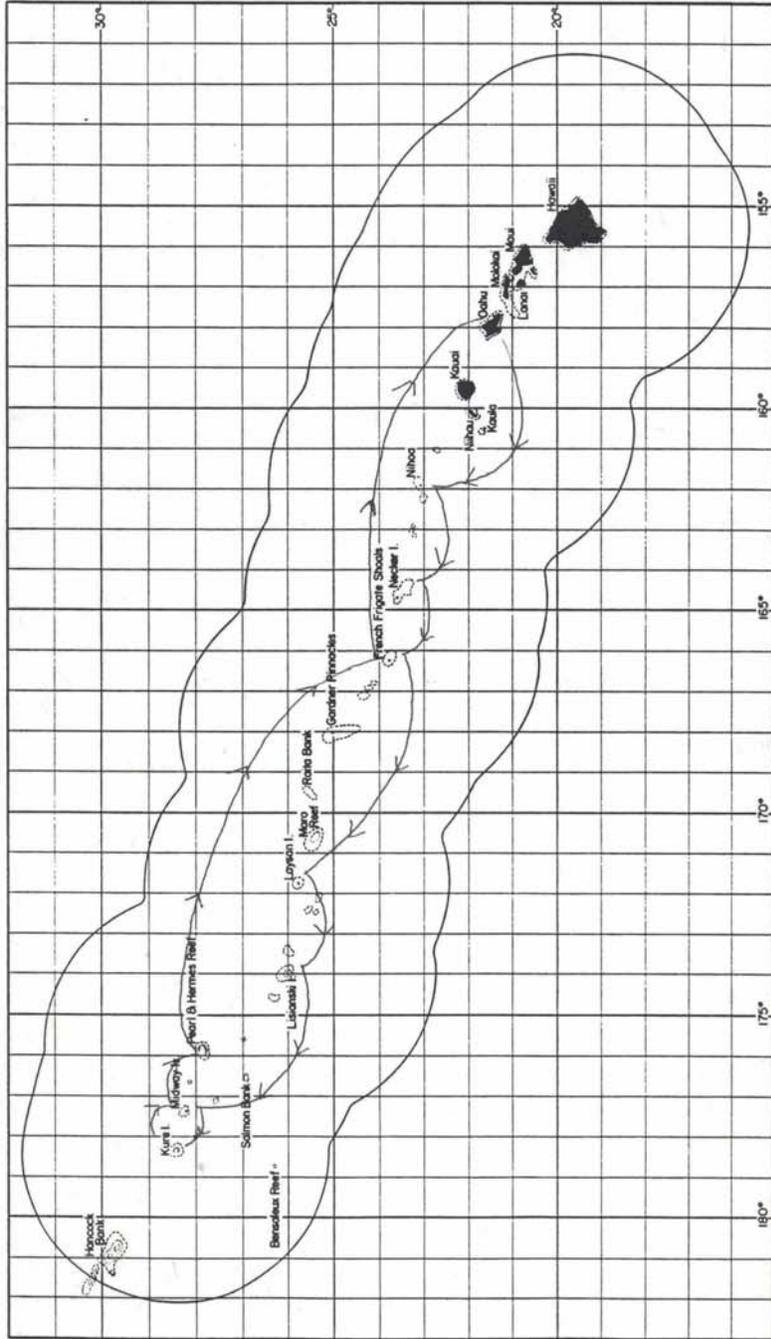


Figure 1.--Track of the NOAA ship Oscar Elton Sette cruise OES-05-09 (OES-31), July 19 to August 5, 2005.